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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Bettina BOMMARIUS, et al.

: GROUP ART UNIT: 1652

SERIAL NO.: 09/910,033

FILED: JULY 23, 2001

: EXAMINER: PAK

FOR: RECOMBINANT ENZYMES HAVING IMPROVED NAD (H) AFFINITY

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED

NOV 22 2002

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 17 with the following text:

B1
Accordingly, one object of the present invention is a modified enzyme wherein at least one neutral amino acid is replaced with at least one acidic amino acid and wherein the basic amino acids at the coenzyme binding site of said enzyme are not replace; wherein the modified enzyme exhibits increased NAD(H) affinity compared to an unmodified enzyme.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as shown in the marked-up copy to read as follows:

B2
1. (Amended) A modified enzyme wherein at least one neutral amino acid is replaced with at least one acidic amino acid and wherein the basic amino acids at the coenzyme